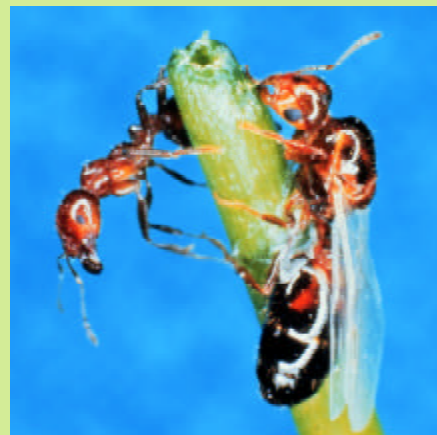


FIRE ANTS IN CALIFORNIA

Red Imported Fire Ants (RI FA) have been found infesting scattered locations in Orange, Los Angeles, and Riverside Counties. In response, the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) has quarantined all of Orange County and infested areas of the other two counties. Fire Ants are aggressive, mound-building ants with painful stings. Severe, life-threatening reactions can occur in certain people who have been stung, requiring immediate medical attention. If established, RI FA would have a negative impact on our economy, outdoor lifestyle and natural environment.



What You Can Do



RED IMPORTED FIRE ANTS ARE A THREAT TO OUR ECONOMY, OUTDOOR LIFESTYLE AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

- Report new suspect RI FA mounds to your County Agricultural Commissioner's Office, CDFA's Pest Hotline **(800-491-1899)**, or your local University of California Cooperative Extension office.
- Keep children and pets away from RI FA mounds.
- Eliminate RI FA from your property using products registered for that use, including insect growth regulators (example: Combat, with Hydramethylnon).
- Consult a California Certified Nursery Professional™ for further advice on treating RI FA and review the brochure "**How California Residents Can Deal With Red Imported Fire Ants**".
- Do not move soil, potted plants or other items that may harbor RI FA from or within the quarantine areas.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

- The Agricultural Commissioner's Office in your county.
- Your local University of California Cooperative Extension office
- The "Pest Update" link on CDFA's website (www.cdfa.ca.gov)
- California Certified Nursery Professionals™ who are available in many nurseries and garden centers to help you with your questions about RI FA.

